

THE CLARION.

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Meeting of the Mississippi Sanitary Council at Jackson.

CIRCULAR.

SANITARY COUNCIL OF THE MISS VALLEY,
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,
SPRINGFIELD, ILL., March 7, 1883.

DEAR SIR: After consultation with many of the members, it has been determined to hold the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Sanitary Council of the Mississippi Valley at Jackson, Miss., beginning on April 2d, proximo. Those interested in sanitary matters, especially in the Valley, will recognize the importance of a full attendance at this meeting.

In view of the recent action—legislative and judicial—affecting the sanitary interests of territory not embraced in the Council, in common with the Valley proper, invitations are extended to prominent Sanitarians and health officials in the South Atlantic and Gulf States. It is hoped that such invitations will be generally accepted.

By order of the Executive Committee.

GUSTAVUS DEVRON, M. D.,

President.

D. B. HILLS, M. D.,

Vice-President.

JOHN H. RAUCH, M. D.,

Secretary.

The Secretary (Springfield, Ill.) should be promptly advised whether you will be present or not.

(The studied attempt of Congress to break down the National Board of Health has prompted this action of the Council, and it has properly decided to hold its meeting at an early day, in the heart of the region most likely to suffer first from a yellow fever epidemic. It should be hospitably greeted by all our people.)

The stampede of plantation hands from the bottoms along the Lower Mississippi will enable hill farmers to supply themselves with plenty of labor.

CAPT. S. H. PARISOT has secured the controlling interest in the P. line, and resumes the management of it. The public interested in the Yazoo Valley trade will be gratified by the news.

WASHINGTON correspondents say that Buchanan withdrew his papers in the contest with Manning for his seat, pocketed several thousand dollars and returned to Mississippi a more wealthy man, if not a Congressman.

It will be borne in mind that the new tax repeal law takes off the check stamp upon July 1st, after which time checks and drafts need not be stamped. The law provides for the redemption of stamps not used, provided they are presented for payment within three years from the time of purchase from the Government.

THE President has signed the commissions of the members of the Civil Service Commission, and they have met in Washington to prepare a plan of operations. The Chief Examiner will be appointed by the President as soon as the Commissioners agree upon the selection. Meantime before the blessed era of "reform" sets in, some lively work has been performed in the way of putting out some, and putting in others.

OUR worthy contemporary, the Ledger, joins issue with our correspondent "Observer" in his views of Railroad economy and management. The public will judge between them. We will re-iterate that "Observer" is an experienced Railroad manager, of established business capacity, prudent, thoughtful, level headed and public spirited. He has no axe to grind—no friends to reward nor enemies to punish. He only asks to be heard for his cause.

SECTIONAL prejudice and jealousy against civilian physicians has deprived the National Board of Health of its quarantine powers, and it is proposed, says the Courier-Journal, to make the Marine Hospital Service do the work assigned to the national board. That service tried its hand at Brownsville, Tex., last year on a small epidemic, and spent \$10,000 to \$15,000 more than the National Board of Health spent in handling the great epidemic of 1878. The Marine Hospital Service should remain what it is, an organization for the sanitary care of seamen and river men. The national board has been eminently useful, and it is a shame that Congress is actually endeavoring to annihilate it.

A Pernicious Scheme.

On the day before the adjournment of Congress, what we regard as a mischievous measure originating in the interest of an overgrown monopoly, was defeated in the House of Representatives. It was a bill which was introduced earlier in the session to authorize the Southern Pacific and other Railroad companies to consolidate so as to form a continuous line of Railroad under one management between the Pacific ocean and the Mississippi river. The effect of the measure would be to enable the Southern Pacific (Huntington's) to establish itself as a dominating corporation, not as now, having other lines to co-operate with, but as controller of the whole route—the consent of the other companies having been purchased, or otherwise procured, to the proposed arrangement. The bill provides that the consolidated company shall be "a body politic and corporate of the United States." It also "reserves to Congress the right to fix, from time to time, the rates for carrying passengers and freights." This explains one of the objects of the bill. It is to take from the States the right to supervise the combined corporations and vest it in Congress, which results have shown, is slow to exercise the power. The States through which the line runs, either have adopted, or are adopting legislation, asserting their authority which is likely to trouble the several corporations in their effort to impose such charges "as the traffic will bear." California has a Railroad Commission, and Texas has established a passenger rate of three cents a mile, and other States and Territories directly interested, it is apprehended, will follow suit. As it now stands the Southern Pacific is a local corporation subject to the laws of the different States which it passes through. If the bill had passed, the Southern Pacific would have been removed from the jurisdiction of the States and made "a body politic and corporate of the United States." True, it contains provisions which were apparently designed to obviate this objection, but they involve contradictions in the bill, and the best that can be said of them is that they would inevitably result in litigation whenever the State Legislatures assumed the right to interfere.

In the early part of the session, a motion to suspend the rules to put the bill on its passage barely failed; and on the 3d of March, the same proposition received a strong support showing that the attorneys and lobbyists of the monopoly had put in their work with marked effect.

By reference to the Congressional Record for that date, we note that an animated discussion took place on the motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Sparks (of Illinois) suggested that it would confer the power of supervision and control upon Congress and take it away from the States. Mr. Hammond (of Georgia), cited the Constitution of Texas to show that it conflicted with the organic law of that State. Mr. Dunn (of Arkansas) said that it was full of unseen results, pitfalls and snares; that its cloven feet peeped out, and that all its feet are cloven; that among other advantages arrived at was the preventing of competition, and the securing 18,000,000 of acres of unearned public lands to which the Texas Pacific had not secured its title. Mr. Gibson (of Louisiana), said it presented questions of such gravity that he was constrained to cast his vote in the negative. Mr. Culbertson (of Texas) said that the measure is contrary to the policy of the State of Texas, and furthermore that he could demonstrate that the object of the bill was to strengthen the claim of the Huntington company to the 18,000,000 of acres granted the Texas and Pacific, to which the former has not a shadow of right; in other words to obtain a status to contend for the forfeited claim of that company. Mr. Robinson (of Massachusetts), would pause before consenting to the scheme. Mr. Holman (of Indiana), thought Congress, in view of the growing power of the great railroad corporations of the country should hesitate before consolidating these corporations into one powerful corporation, extending across the continent. Mr. Berry (of California), said that his State was opposed to the scheme, and in her name he protested against it. The motion to suspend the rules was lost by a vote of 87 to 128—76 not voting. But as grasping monopolies like the prince of the fallen angels, have the unconquerable will, and courage never to yield nor to submit—it is reasonable to suppose that its fight has just commenced, and that the question will come up again.

THE town and city elections held in New York show little change in the relative strength of the two parties since the general elections last fall, when the Democrats carried the State. In some towns the independent voter asserted himself, and the result was the defeat of the unpopular candidates.

SENATOR GORMAN'S LESSON.

The speech of Senator Gorman, of Maryland, on another page, explains the difficulties in the way of the tariff reformers. He charged that the proceedings of the Senate had shown that while Democratic Senators had made professions in favor of "a tariff for revenue only," they had invariably departed from that path when it came to impose duties upon articles in which their local, and directly or indirectly, their individual interests, were involved. Of those who answered his charge but one successfully denied the impeachment, Mr. Harris, of Tennessee. Two others, Messrs. Maxey, of Texas, and Vance, of North Carolina, took up the gauntlet, but the Maryland Senator, with his sharp lance, quickly penetrated the vulnerable places in the armor of both. Mr. Maxey was effectively silenced, and Mr. Vance, the laughing philosopher of the Senate, sought, but failed, to parry his thrust by a jest. We ourselves think that one, or two, or, probably, three others might have responded successfully to the allegation, as did Mr. Harris, but they may have thought that discretion was the better part of valor and remained silent. Mr. Gorman himself did not profess to be in the condition of one, who being without sin, could safely cast the first stone. He played his hand openly, and admitted that he was in the alleged category of the others, and essayed to justify his course by plausible sophistry and the authorities which he cited.

The lesson is that serious difficulties lie in the way of Democratic harmony in adjusting a tariff system; and that the representatives of the people who claim to be revenue reformers should trust the people and adhere strictly to the line of policy which they profess. There is one consolation however: it is when the Democrats came to vote on the new bill of abominations containing all the odious ingredients of the measure it succeeded, they were practically united in one house, and there were but seventeen bolters in the other.

At a meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee of Jackson county, M. B. Richmond Chairman and Chas. W. Wood secretary—it was resolved that a mass meeting of the Democratic party of Jackson County be held on May 21st, 1883, for the purpose of selecting delegates to nominate a district attorney for the 7th judicial district; that State Line be suggested as a place for holding the convention to nominate a district attorney, and the 1st day of August as the time for holding the same; that Dr. E. F. Griffin be empowered to confer with the proper democratic committees of each county composing the 7th judicial district, for the purpose of selecting the time and place of holding a convention to nominate a district attorney for the 7th judicial district, and it was unanimously carried that the mode, manner and time of nominating candidates for county offices, be postponed until the mass convention to be held on the 21st of May, at the courthouse of Jackson county. We have condensed the foregoing report from the Democrat-Star.

The Will of the People.

The Pascagoula-Democrat-Star don't think the election of Judges by the people will do, and it gives the usual reason. Those who are opposed to it, and are in favor of perpetuating the close corporation system devised by the carpet-bag regime and which has been transmitted to us as a putrid reminiscence of the same, have taken good care to prevent an expression of the will of the people on the subject. Will our friend of the Democrat-Star join us in providing the opportunity for an expression of their will? Above all things, it would delight us to have an expression of Democratic Conservative sentiment on the subject. Our faith in popular government has not been changed.

THE CLARION partakes of the grief occasioned by the death of Mr. W. H. Cochran last week. He died at his home in Lauderdale county of consumption. He was for a long while editor of the Starkville Times and was subsequently Clerk of the Mississippi House of Representatives. He was a gentleman in the truest acceptance of the term—frank, manly, and generous, and was endowed with the natural gifts which would have secured success in life, if his career had not been cut short in his early manhood.

HON. JAMES S. BOYNTON, President of the Georgia State Senate has been sworn in as Governor. He has ordered an election to be held on the 24th of April, to fill the vacancy caused by Governor Stephens' death. The Democratic Executive Committee of the State has called a State Convention to nominate a candidate.

MR. D. S. FEARING, who wields a graceful and vigorous pen, is duly installed as the editor of the local page of our neighbor, the Raymond Gazette.

Albert Gallatin Brown.

Old Fogey, in Courier Journal.]

Albert Gallatin Brown, of Mississippi, was born in South Carolina on the 31st of May, 1813. When he was about ten years of age his father removed to Mississippi and settled in what is now Copiah county. Having received a liberal education, he commenced the study of law and in 1833 was admitted to the bar. Being a young gentleman of twenty, and popular manners, he soon entered upon an extensive practice. In 1835 Copiah county sent him to the Legislature, and in 1837 renewed his commission. During these two terms he made a reputation. In 1839 he and Jacob Thompson were elected Representatives to Congress from the State-at-large. Much to the regret of his friends he declined a renomination in 1841. In November of the same year he was elected Judge of the Circuit Court by an almost unanimous vote. In 1843 he resigned this position to accept the Democratic nomination for Governor. He was triumphantly elected, and served four years. In 1847 he was again elected a Representative to Congress, and was continued in that body by successive re-elections until the 4th of March, 1853. In 1853 the Legislature of Mississippi elected him a Senator in Congress for six years. In 1859 he was re-elected and served until the 12th of January, 1861, when he resigned to take stock in the Southern Confederacy. Senator Brown was deservedly loved by the people of his State. I knew him intimately and greatly esteemed him. He was a frank, upright man, despising hypocrisy and disregarding policy when weighed against conviction. He died at his Mississippi home a few years ago, leaving a family to mourn and a host of friends to regret his loss.

AN OLD FOGY.

(Old Fogey omits an important chapter in the history of Governor Brown. He fails to say that when the war was ended, he considered the fighting over, and fully realized its consequences, and incurred the odium of many who had hitherto believed in and followed him, by counselling them to recognize the inevitable and adapt themselves to circumstances which no human agency could avert. He intuitively grasped the situation, and wiser than his generation, predicted the evils that were to follow, and pointed out to his countrymen of the South the way to avoid them. His advice was not taken in time, but his far-sighted and unerring sagacity is now seen and acknowledged.)

THE Memphis Appeal observes that Van Voorhis, of New York, made a narrow escape of expulsion from the House. He descended to the profoundest depths of blackguardism when he said, with the force of a white heat passion, that no one but a gambler and a cut-throat would vote for the \$10,000 appropriation for the improvement of the Sacramento river, and that it would not have been offered had the chairman not been from California. Mr. McLean, of Maryland, promptly had the words noted, and moved for the immediate expulsion of Van Voorhis. Van Voorhis begged to be heard. Leave was granted him to speak. He made a half-way apology. This was not satisfactory, and the demand for his expulsion became imperative. He then made the most abject apology to Page and to the House, and wound up by asking in a quaking voice, "What more can a man do?" The House then, by a small majority, decided not to expel him. He is nevertheless disgraced by having brought into an honorable deliberative body the manners of a brothel.

JUSTICE FIELD, of the Supreme Court, is the only Democrat now on the bench, and upon a question directly involving the doctrine of States' rights it is rather singular that he should dissent from the opinion of his Republican colleagues, in which they are most emphatic in the maintenance of a political theory which heretofore they have been rather inclined to repudiate.—N. O. States.

It must be remembered that Judge Field was appointed as a Republican; but when the Democrats were supposed to be bidding for a candidate outside their own lines, the Presidential bee got into his bonnet and he threw one or two tubs in the shape of State rights opinions, to the Democratic whale. His aim was missed and the dog has returned to his vomit. That's all.

THE New York Sun says that Mr. Thoman, recently appointed a member of the Civil Service Commission (and who, therefore, will be one of the examiners of all appointees to office), has peculiarities of speech—such, for instance, as "I seen" and "I have saw." It is feared he will not be a competent "judge" of the qualifications of applicants for the small clerkships in the Washington departments to which the law applies.

THE shipment of gold from Europe to this country still attracts great attention in financial circles, and down to the close of business yesterday our bankers had been advised of shipments aggregating \$3,200,000, which are now on their way across the sea.—Philadelphia Ledger.

It was predicted when the bill to remonetize silver was passed, that gold in perfect disgust, would take the wings of the morning, and flee the country. But time has shown that the prophets were at fault.

Railroad Economy—No. 5.

The question of a freight tariff is perhaps the most important and difficult with which the railroad manager has to deal, as it determines the revenue of the company on the one hand and the tax to be levied upon the people on the other.

It is a question analogous to a revenue bill in the legislature, and no man or set of men has yet been found wise enough to so adjust a tariff as to be equal in all its bearings upon the interests involved.

It requires an amount of diversity of practical knowledge that is not found in one brain, and can only be approximated by the combination of different minds.

In determining the rate to be fixed for transportation by rail, there are peculiarities not found in other modes of conveyance. The considerations which ordinarily prevail in fixing rates for transportation, are

WEIGHT, BULK AND VALUE.

The freighter would, in the case of iron, lead, stone, etc., have to give the preponderance to the consideration of weight, because his tonnage capacity would be exhausted before his bulk capacity was half reached.

The freighter of hats, boots, shoes, etc., would give preponderance to the consideration of bulk, because his bulk capacity would be exhausted before his tonnage was reached.

The freighter of mixed dry-goods would give the preponderance to value, for while his bulk and tonnage capacity might be equalized, the value and consequent risk would be increased.

In river and ocean transportation the freighter protects himself by excepting "the dangers of the seas and rivers," and thus relieves himself of much of the risk; but in rail transportation there are no exceptions, and the company becomes not only freighters but insurers. This peculiarity in rail freights has given rise to what is called "classification of freights," and this is as difficult a question as that of rates, and so difficult that no uniform or general classification has been agreed upon, and hardly any two roads have the same.

Another peculiarity arises from the variety of local productions, and still another from the great fluctuations in value. Cotton, for illustration, which a few years since was worth \$75 to \$100 per bale, while at present it is hardly worth the half of it, it will be seen that prices fixed for its transportation based upon the former value becomes onerous and excessive when applied to the latter.

We have said enough to show those who have never investigated the subject, that business talent of the highest order combined with the most varied and extensive experience is required to make up a freight tariff that even approximates to equity.

A similar question presents itself at every session of every legislature in the Union, and at the present moment the assembled wisdom of the nation is discussing it at the Capital. Think you, then, that one mind and that perhaps not the most experienced can determine it, and that mind interested in and looking only to one side of the question and governed only by the interest of one of the parties to be affected. OBSERVER.

AMONG the bills that died on the calendar of the last Congress were the following:

To create the Department of Agriculture.

For the appointment of a Liquor Traffic Commission.

For a Board of Inter-State Commerce.

To create a Commission on Immigration.

To declare the forfeiture of unearned railroad land grants.

The River and Harbor bill.

The bill to suspend silver coinage.

And numerous others too tedious to mention.

CAPT. W. S. ESKRIDGE is publishing a series of valuable articles in the Tallahatchie Sentinel, upon various chapters of the Revised Code of Mississippi, one of which we have reproduced for the benefit of our readers. It contained an error which we wish to correct. In the last paragraph, Mrs. Hadley is spoken of as having taken the initiative in the liberation of her sex from the disabilities imposed by the common law, in 1882. It should have been, 1839. The women of Mississippi should rear a monument to her memory.

MR. BURROWS, the Chairman of the select Mississippi River Investigating Committee, and a champion of Civil Service reform having been put out of Congress, by his people, proves his faith by his works; and consents to be rotated into the office of 2d comptroller of the Treasury.

OUR Vicksburg contemporaries contain touching tribute to the memory of Mrs. A. M. Lea, whose death occurred in that city on Sabbath last, in her 27th year. The death of one around whom clustered so many fond hopes and cherished affections, has cast a gloom over a wide circle of friends.

MRS. A. S. BOWWORTH, has resumed the active management of the Canton Citizen, and infused new vigor in its local columns especially. She deserves to be liberally patronized.

GEN. WADE HAMPTON of South Carolina, has arrived at his plantation near Greenville, Mississippi.

Pointers.

The founders of our government intended that it should be for the people but the Republican party for the seventeen years have legislated in the Constitution directed that all laws be made solely in the interest of corporations and monopolies—legislation in favor of the few against the many.

A contemporary suggests that Windom is going to be President a railroad company, he will have opportunity to show his faith in his views on railroad management expressed in his letter of 1881, which bore witness on railroad extortion and monopoly.

There is danger, the Cincinnati Enquirer asserts, that Indiana may be prodigal with her Presidential vote. The last time they were counted was four of them—McDonald, Hendricks, Niblack and Harrison.

From the way the administration turning out some men and putting others without known cause, the inference is drawn that it is bent on Service Reform.

The Boston Post publishes photographs: If the people of Virginia submitted to taxation as freely to their State debt as some of them submitted to assessments by Federal lieutenants, they might have seen the foul political stigma that now attaches to them.

It is suggested that every one hankers after the flesh-pots should be notified that in forty days the Pension Civil Service bill goes into operation and that they will then be expected to clean their wicked hearts and become good citizens.

The Harrisburg Patriot reminds country that the expensive official chinery of the internal revenue remains as heretofore. The Republican majority could not think of partitioning its army of organizers and intimating on the pay roll of the bureau. A measure of political reform, the bill therefore a miserable abortion. There is a hereafter, as the cowardly incapables of the last Congress will their dismay, eventually discover.

The late Congress appropriated an enormous amount of \$186,679,000 in pensions alone. This vast sum was called for by legislation which the preceding Congress had consummated. The Forty-seventh rejected all attempts to undo this legislation or mitigate consequences, and accordingly it is the responsibility of laying these burdens on the country, and besides it took to withhold even the smallest pittance from the Mexican War veterans. Can most of them live in the South.

The next great reform needed in a country is the one which will clip the combs of the monopoly bosses.

The surest way, the Washington Post asserts, of missing a Presidential nomination is to vigilantly pursue it.

THE Lexington Advertiser contains a call on Mr. G. A. Wilson, late District Attorney, to become a candidate to represent the Holmes county District in the State Senate. We infer from the item which is being displayed all along the line, in the selection of candidates, for our next Legislature is to be composed of the best talent and qualification the State affords. This is as it should be. Unless they have wise and economical legislation for their home rule, the people cannot prosper. With it, they defy the storms from without. We tend no discrimination between Mr. Wilson and other good men who may be designated for the place, in saying that he possesses in an eminent degree the qualities of a useful member of the legislative department.

COMPETITIVE examinations, under the civil service law, will begin about the middle of July. Washington correspondents say that as it interferes somewhat with the influence of senators and representatives, there is a tremendous pressure on the departments for appointments. Many of the applicants appear to think that this is their only chance. They say that a great many changes will be made between now and the 15th of July. In the meantime, it should be the endeavor of all to give the law a fair chance.

THEY have a three-cornered fight in the 11th District. Messrs. David Johnson, S. M. Taylor and John M. Simonton are in the field—all strong men. Mr. Johnson—or, as the folks want to call him, "Uncle Davy"—plans himself on his record; and it is certainly a good one.

J. D. WATSON, a lobbyist, was convicted at Columbus, Ohio, of attempting to bribe Representative Block of Cleveland. The practice of lobbying has generated into such notorious corruption as to make it an evil of the worst kind. It should be abated by the strongest